

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 XMB-02 OPIC-03

LAB-04 SIL-01 OPR-02 ABF-01 FS-01 DODE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 /095 W

----- 053349

R 110337Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5236

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 5439

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CINCPAC

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 5577

BANGKOK/FADPC FOR AL CHINN, USDO

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, EFIN, LA

SUBJ: BANKING SITUATION IN LAOS

REF: VIENTIANE 5545 (NOTAL)

1. AS OF MORNING SEPTEMBER 11, PRIVATE BANKS IN VIENTIANE STILL CLOSED (SEE REF A) FOR "AUDIT" OF ACCOUNTS. NATIONAL BANK OF LAOS WAS ALSO CLOSED LATE AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 9. FORTUNATELY, EMBASSY BUDGET AND FISCAL OFFICER HAD ALREADY DRAWN OUT SUFFICIENT KIP FROM OUR ACCOUNT IN NBL TO MEET EMBASSY LOCAL EMPLOYEES' PAYROLL FOR THIS WEEK.

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2. IN RESPONSE TO OUR INQUIRY TO MFA ABOUT HOW WE CAN
WITHDRAW MONIES FROM OUR KIP ACCOUNTS IN EVENT OF NEED
(EMBASSY HAS KIP ACCOUNTS IN BANQUE DE L'INDOCHINE AND
NATIONAL BANK OF LAOS), MFA OFFICIAL SAID HE EXPECTED BANKS
WOULD BE OPEN AGAIN SEPTEMBER 12 OR 15. HOWEVER, FEOF MANAGER
A.B. HUNT TOLD EMBOFF THAT "AUDITOR" TEAM IN NATIONAL BANK
OF LAOS SEEMED UNSURE OF BANK EXAMINING PROCEDURES AND
WAS PROGRESSING VERY SLOWLY IN ITS CHECK OF THAT BANK. HUNT
DOUBTED IT WOULD BE OPEN AGAIN BY SEPTEMBER 12.

3. FRENCH EMBOFF TOLD US SEPT 11 THAT ACTING DIRECTOR OF
BANQUE DE L'INDOCHINE ROBERT MISERY HAS NOT YET BEEN ALLOWED TO
LEAVE HIS BANK. MISERY IS STAYING IN AN APARTMENT ABOVE
BANK OFFICES. HOWEVER, OTHER EMPLOYEES OF BIC HAVE BEEN
ALLOWED TO COME IN AND GO OUT. FRENCH EMPLOYEE OF BIC TOLD
FRENCH EMBOFF THAT "AUDITORS" ONLY WORKED AT BIC ONE
HOUR ON SEPTEMBER 10 AND THEN LEFT, PRHAPS TO AUDIT OTHER
BANKS. BIC EMPLOYEE DID NOT KNOW WHEN BANK WOULD
REOPEN.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: BANKS, CLOSURE OF OFFICES
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 11 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
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Executive Order: N/A
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Film Number: D750314-0353
From: VIENTIANE
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Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
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EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

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